



# City of Austin

**Will Wynn, Mayor**

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The Honorable Lamar Smith  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515-4321

Dear Representative Smith:

I am pleased to submit the City of Austin's FY 2010 request for \$800,000 for police technology, which was approved unanimously by the Austin City Council as part of the City's Federal Legislative Program for the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress – 1<sup>st</sup> Session.

The City will use the requested federal funding to install security cameras in pedestrian-heavy and high-crime locations. This technology will allow the Austin Police Department (APD) to "expand its police force" by providing the capability to monitor activity from a central location. Police cameras have been shown to reduce crime and provide video evidence that bolsters the prosecution of criminal cases. APD will use the cameras to fight all crime, with a focus on potentially life-threatening crimes such as assaults and robberies which have recently increased in various City locations. The requested funding may also be used to purchase temporary storage space for digital evidence obtained from security cameras. Funding will also be used to purchase a mobile training facility. All Austin Police Officers must be licensed and show proficiency with each of their firearms by qualifying annually, and must travel to APD Training Academy range for both practice and qualifications. As the department grows, and on-going officer training is needed, the mobile facility will greatly enhance our ability to meet law enforcement standards.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and thank you for your work on Austin's behalf.

Regards,

Will Wynn  
Mayor